

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendments to the application is requested on the grounds that the claims, as amended, patentably distinguish over the cited art of record or, alternatively, place the application in better condition for appeal. The claims more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. No new issues have been added which would require further consideration and/or search, nor has any new matter been added. The claims are believed to avoid the rejections applied in the Final Office Action for reasons set forth more fully below.

The Final Office Action of May 2, 2008 has been received and carefully reviewed. It is submitted that, by this Amendment, all bases of rejection and objection are traversed and overcome. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-13, 16-18, 34-44 and 46-48 remain in the application. Claims 15, 45 and 49 are canceled herein.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

At the outset, Applicants note that claims 1-13, 16-18, 34-44 and 46-48 contain allowable subject matter.

Claims 15 and 45 stand objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Claims 15 and 45 have been canceled herein, and thus Applicants submit that the objection is rendered moot.

Claim 49 stands rejected under 1) 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph for failing to comply with the written description requirement, 2) 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention, and 3) under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sasahara (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0012825) in view of Chou (U.S. Patent No. 5,772,905) and Jeong (U.S. Patent No. 6,943,117).

Applicants do not acquiesce to the Examiner's rejections; however, in order to expedite prosecution, Claim 49 has been canceled herein. Thus, Applicants submit that the rejections are rendered moot.

In summary, claims 1-13, 16-18, 34-44 and 46-48 remain in the application, and claims 15, 45 and 49 have been canceled herein. It is submitted that, through this amendment, Applicants' invention as set forth in these claims is in a condition suitable for allowance.

Further and favorable consideration is requested. If the Examiner believes it would expedite prosecution of the above-identified application, he is cordially invited to contact Applicants' Attorney at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

DIERKER & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

/Julia Church Dierker/

Julia Church Dierker
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 33368
(248) 649-9900, ext. 25
juliad@troypatent.com

3331 West Big Beaver Rd., Suite 109
Troy, Michigan 48084-2813
Dated: July 2, 2008
JCD/JRK/jmo